OPINION

Lessons learned on the Hill

Bolster '19 shares some advice he wishes he would have been told as a first-year **page 6**

FEATURES

Ode to the Queen

Doc Woods writes on the passing of Aretha Franklin **page 9**

SPORTS

Fall sports preview

A comprehensive look into what's ahead for fall athletics **page 16**

The Spectator

Thursday, August 30, 2018

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Number 1

Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

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Hamilton College welcomes new senior staff members, promotes others

by Isabel Kierstead '21
Staff Writer

While returning and newly oriented students face the changes of a new year, the College administration has had several significant staff changes of its own. Some changes have come in the form of internal promotions, with others involve the arrival of new personnel from outside the College and the creation of new roles. In addition, some Hamilton senior staff members have left the College for other pusuits.

Jeff Landry, the former Associate Dean of Students for Health and Safety has been promoted to Associate Vice President for Student Life. He is responsible for day-to-day operations on campus, including those of Student Affairs, as well as overseeing departments such as Campus Safety and Student Health Services. In this role he will now serve as a director deputy to Dean of Students Terry Martinez. Landry, who helped guide Hamilton and its student body through the norovirus outbreak on Hamilton's campus last year, had previously overseen only functions of the College pertaining to student health, well-being, and safety.

Assistant Dean of Students for Residential Life Travis Hill has seen his title change to Assistant Dean for Student Engagement. This new role better reflects his area of oversight, which includes Orientation and First-Year programs as well as Community Outreach programs. While his old title implied that he only managed residential life, he in fact had provided oversight to other student programs. In addition, as the College reviews residential life on campus and strives to create more unique residential communities that foster experiential learning, Hill will oversee the process devoted to studying these changes.

Ashley Place, who formerly served as the Title IX Coordinator and Assistant Director for Residential Life has been promoted to Director of Residential Life. Place, who will no longer serve as Title IX Coordinator, was promoted in accordance with Hill's new responsiblites overseeing programming and residential life. In her role, Place will supervise both area directors and residential advisors.

Margaret Gentry, the William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of Women's and Gender Studies and former Dean of Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs has been asked to take on the role of senior advisor to President Wippman. She will provide strategic insight and expertise for the launch of the College's capital campaign later in the year, as well as continuing to provide counsel on academic issues to President Wippman and the current Dean of Faculty.

There have also been several new additions to the College administration. Suzanne Keen was recently hired as the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty. Keen, who formerly taught at Washington and Lee University, was announced to the campus last year and formerly began her tenure on July 1. As Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty, Keen oversees academic programming and the hiring of new faculty. In addition, Keen will be a part of the College's study into potential changes to its open curriculum.

Maria Genao-Homs is the new Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion. Her job focuses on bringing diverse perspectives to campus. She will work closely with the Days-Massolo Center, the Admissions Office, and the Dean of Faculty in efforts to attract diverse students and faculty to Hamilton.

Catherine Berryman also joined the College administration as the Director of Community Standards and is the new Title IX Coordinator. She will be the first to hold the newly-created position, which will more broadly cover student discipline.

Finally, Jae Jaeger is the new Area Director for Residential Life, and will work closely with students in the first-year residence halls.

There are also ongoing nationwide searches to fill empty positions. One is to replace Nora Klaphake, the current Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board of Trustees, after her announcement that she will stepping down from her role. In her two years at Hamilton, she has planned and implemented various projects, as well as acted as a liaison for the Board of Trustees.

Another search is being conducted to find a new Vice President for Communications and Marketing Reporting. A recent review of the Communications Office by Glenn Altschuler, the Litwin Professor of American Studies and former Vice President of University Relations at Cornell University, found that Hamilton would greatly benefit from establishing such a position.

Many of these changes were made to ensure that the College continues to run as efficiently as possible and to better reflect the changing needs of the student body.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty Suzanne Keen

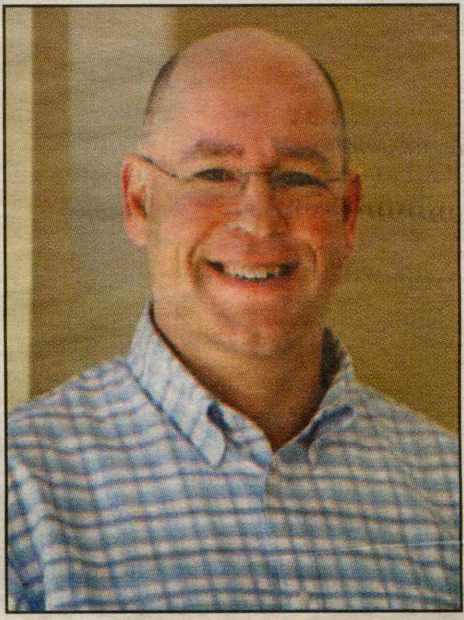

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Associate Vice President of Student Life Jeff Landry

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Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion Maria Genao-Homs

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Director of Community Standards Catherine Berryman

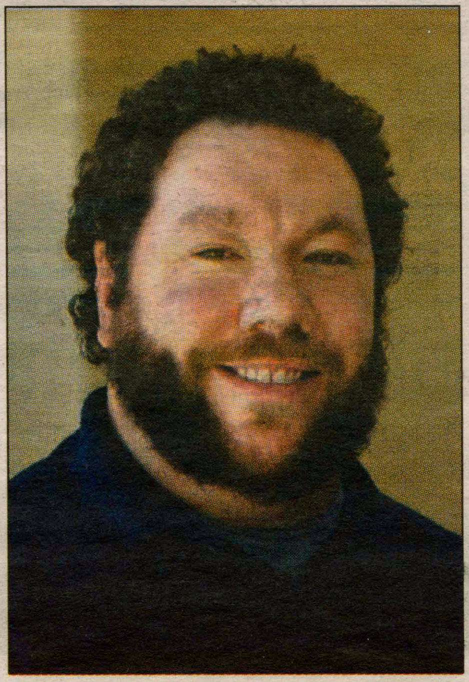

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Assistant Dean of Students for Student Engagement Travis Hill

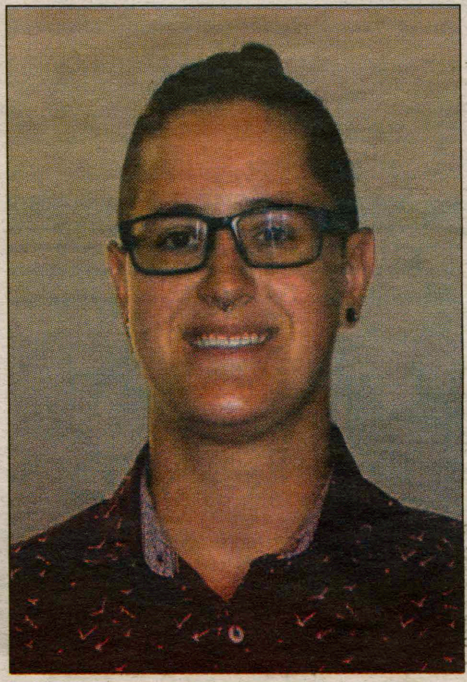

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

First-Year Residential Life Area Director Jae Jaeger

Dean of Students' August update announces popular changes for upcoming year

by Erica Ivins '21
Staff Writer

At the beginning of August, students received an email from the Dean of Students office that announced many changes to campus life with the goal of improving students' experiences.

In the message, Dean of Students Terry Martinez included new details with regards to updating the health facilities on campus. According to Martinez, the College hopes to see the construction of the new Johnson Student Health Center be completed by mid-semester. Upon opening, students will be able to seek assistance with both mental and physical issues with professional staff members.

The email also announced Hamilton's efforts to provide students with better access to Counseling Center resources by partnering with a service called BetterMynds. Martinez said that this online network, which offers licensed counselor video-therapy sessions, will allow students to more readily address mental health concerns on campus. This service hopes to assist in supplementing the high demand for mental health counseling services by students at the College.

Additionally, the email announced significant changes to Hamilton's dining hours and meal plans. Based on student input, the College felt that increasing the dining halls' hours of operation as well as making each dining option, including the Howard Diner, accessible throughout the day would enhance student life. While Soper Commons dining hall had previousy closed at 8:30 PM, its hours have now been extended until 12:00 AM. This will allow students who have late practices, classes, or extra-curriclar commitments more time to eat, and with more options. In addition, by permitting multiple meal swipes during a single meal period, students can now utilize popular spots like the Diner more often. And, in a move that is sure to be popular with families, any visiting parent now gets to eat for free without requiring a student to use an extra swipe for the meal.

Dean Martinez also addressed the housing issues that occured at the end of last year. Following complaints regarding the lack of housing options during the normally scheduled lottery for rising sophomores, the College opened additional dorms to accommodate those sophomores left without housing prior to the summer. The College has also opened up new housing for upperclassmen. 95 College Hill Road and 4002 Campus Road were made into apartments for seniors, adding a "veteran" option to those students who desire a less dorm-like setting for their final year. These buildings, which were formerly used as faculty housing, will complement the existing apartment-style housing that exists at Griffin Road and Morris House. Given that they are farther from central campus locations, they will give students greater autonomy as they preapre to graduate.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Soper Commons Dining Hall will now serve food until midnight.

Off-campus roundup: belligerent North Korea, Myanmar flood, and Chinese birth restriction reform

by Amanda Kim '21
News Editor

In an effort to connect with current events off the Hill — locally, domestically, and abroad — The Spectator *will periodically publish a news recap that seeks to inform the Hamilton community on the basics of contemporary issues.*

White House Counsel Departure

On Wednesday, Aug. 29, President Donald Trump announced that White House counsel Don McGahn would be leaving his position in the Trump administration this fall. Trump tweeted that this departure will take place "shortly after the confirmation (hopefully) of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the United States Supreme Court."

McGahn was reported to have cooperated extensively with special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian interference and potential collusion with Trump's presidential campaign. McGahn and President Trump allegedly clashed over the latter's numerous attempts to obstruct special counsel Mueller's investigation into the collusion.

McGahn's departure, however, seems to be amicable and was already in the works before his cooperation with Mueller's team was revealed. Earlier in August, sources close to the White House reported McGahn was likely to leave his White House post after Kavanaugh's confirmation. Trump tweeted that "I have worked with Don for a long time and truly appreciate his service!" CNN has reported that attorney Emmet Flood, who works in the office of the White House Counsel and directs the Russia legal strategy, is a contender to replace McGahn.

North Korea Warning Letter

Senior Trump administration officials said on Monday, Aug. 27 that top North Korean officials sent the United States a reportedly "belligerent" letter warning that denuclearization talks were "again at stake and may fall apart."

The letter from vice chairman of North Korea's ruling Workers' Party Central Committee Kim Yong Chol was allegedly delivered to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on the morning of Friday, Aug. 24, just hours before Pompeo was scheduled to depart for his fourth trip to Pyongyang. The trip was abruptly cancelled.

Sources with direct knowledge of the situation said the letter stated that Kim Jong Un felt that the denuclearization process could not move forward because "the US is still not ready to meet [North Korean] expectations in terms of taking a step forward to sign a peace treaty."

If a compromise cannot be reached and the denuclearization talks do fall apart, sources report that Pyongyang could resume "nuclear and missile activities."

Dam Breach in Myanmar

As may as 50,000 people in central Myanmar were temporarily displaced in the early morning of Wednesday, Aug. 29 when the sluice gates of the Swar Chaung dam in Yedashe township, Bago region burst. The burst flooded Myanmar's central highway as well as around 100 villages and many acres of rice fields. At least one person has been reported missing. Local authorities have urged residents to evacuate as the situation might worsen. State media reported that the dam began overflowing on Monday, Aug. 27, but told citizens that there was no reason to worry.

PHOTO COURTESY OF REUTERS/STRINGER

At least one person is missing and about 50,000 people have been displaced after a dam burst in central Myanmar.

This particular breach follows a number of earlier floods in Myanmar in late July, during which authorities reportedly only instructed residents to evacuate after their homes were already inundated by several feet of water. Around 150,000 people in total have been displaced by the July floods, with many of them now dependent on private food donations as their crops have been destroyed by the disasters. "The villagers have had experiences dealing with it, so there wasn't much trouble," a Myanmar fire department official told *The Guardian* in an interview. "The villagers who live around here know about the possibility of flooding."

Chinese Birth Restrictions

The Chinese government might be moving toward ending the country's birth restrictions are they work to put together a new draft reform to the country's Civil Code. According to a statement released Aug. 28 by the National People's Congress, this revised code "will no longer retain the relevant content of family planning." The current rules in place restrict Chinese couples to having two children (China's one-child policy was eased in 2016). The abolishment of birth restrictions may be prompted by growing conerns over the country's increasingly worrying demographics that include a dropping birth rate and rapidly aging popuation. The revised Civil Code will not be completed until March 2020 and the exact nature of the revisions is yet to be announced; however, this potential end to birth restrictions would allow Chinese familioes to have multiple children for the first time in decades.

NESCAC NEWS

by Benjamin Katz '20
News Editor

Williams College Welcomes New President

Recently, Williams College announced its 18th President. In a press release, Williams's Communications Office wrote "Williams College announced today the appointment of Maud S. Mandel, Dean of the College and Professor of History and Judaic Studies at Brown University, as its 18th president. She will succeed Protik (Tiku) Majumder, who has served as interim president since Jan. 1, following the move, after eight years, of Adam F. Falk to the presidency of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Mandel will begin her tenure at Williams on July 1, 2018."

During her previous tenure at Brown, Mandel accomplished much. "As Dean at Brown, Mandel has been deeply involved in efforts to advance diversity and inclusion, including promoting programs to foster retention for historically underrepresented students in the STEM fields. She also led a collaborative process with students and staff to open the First-Generation College and Low-Income Student Center (FLi Center), the first center at any Ivy League school to be dedicated to first-generation students."

As a scholar, Mandel "examines the ways policies and practices of inclusion and exclusion in 20th-century France have affected ethnic and religious minorities, most notably Jews, Armenians and Muslim North Africans. Her work has won support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the American Philosophical Society, among others."

Colby College Opens New $25 Million Dorm

Colby College students, for the first time ever, will be able to live in "on-campus" housing in downtown Waterville. The *Central Maine* reported that "construction is nearing completion on the $25.5 million residential building Colby College is planning to open this month in the heart of downtown, with the first students scheduled to move in next week.

Dozens of newly wrapped chairs and other furniture crowded the first floor of the new Bill and Joan Alfond Main Street Commons on Monday as builders continued to work on retail and public space that will also be part of the building.

"It's exciting to think about," said Brian Clark, vice president of planning at Colby. "One week from today, basically, we're going to see students living here. And one or two weeks after that, the full 200 will be here. It's exciting to think about what that means for activity on Main Street."

The project is part of a multi-million dollar downtown revitalization effort spearheaded by Colby with partnerships with the city and private investors. So far, Colby has contributed $65 million in direct investments into downtown, officials said Monday."

This project is aimed at increasing the community engagement of Colby students, who many consider disengaged from the local community. By having students more engaged, Colby will be better able to facilitate its reciprocal relationhip with surrounding area.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency *The Spectator* publishes a selection of the previous week's incidents each Thursday. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* use discretion regarding what is published.

Monday, August 20
10:29 P.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

Tuesday, August 21
8:20 P.M. Larceny – Dunham Hall

Wednesday, August 22
7:30 A.M. Falsification/Misuse of a Document – Commons Dining Hall
3:35 P.M. Harassment – Griffin Road
4:18 P.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
6:08 P.M. Smoke Detector – Babbitt Hall

Friday, August 24
11:12 P.M. Marijuana Complaint – Babbitt Residence Hall

Monday, August 27
2:29 P.M. Marijuana Complaint – Science Center Parking Lots

Tuesday, August 28
4:00 P.M. Loose Animal — Bundy Residence Hall

Towards a Hamiltonian identity

How do you describe Hamilton to your friends at home? Your parents? Relatives?

What do you think of when someone asks you about college? Is it your dorm, your classes, your favorite place to eat? Perhaps it is your friends and professors, or maybe a collection of memories from weekends spent on and off campus. Do you think about what you wish Hamilton was? Or, alternatively, what you are grateful it is?

A new year on the Hill brings with it a fresh awareness of our community's identity. Upon returning, we experience various "firsts" — new and old — that remind us of where we are and our relationship with its inhabitants and institutions. There's the first time stepping into an academic building you know will be a place of many late nights in the months ahead. The first time seeing someone you fell out of contact with over the summer (and subsequently, the question of whether you should call out and say hello). There's the first Diner Wednesday, the first Pub Lunch, the first midnight Commons (!). The first night out, and then the first "Sunday Scaries."

Even if it is your first year at Hamilton, you still might notice this heightened sense of past-present tension as you go about campus. Upon returning, you might ask, "Who was I the last time I was here, and am I still that same person a few months later?" The immediacy of our relatively small community can mask perceptions of change and development of the course of a school year, but, given the chance to step away for a while, what do we learn about ourselves once we come back?

This semester at the *Spec*, we'll seek to gain a better understanding of what our Hamiltonian identity is at this moment. We intend to cast a wide net and encourage all voices to join the conversation. You won't necessarily find this topic addressed head on. Instead, we hope to piece together perspectives that address some aspect of our thoughts on ourselves and each other — in art, opinion, achievement, controversy, and more. By December, we'll take stock of where we are and see what answers can be found within a semester's worth of writing.

Congratulations on the start of another school year. Let's see where this one takes us.

Best,

The Spectator

The Spectator editorial represents the opinions of the majority of the editorial board. It is not necessarily unanimously agreed upon.

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Letters to the Editor Policy

The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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***The Spectator* is a publication of the Hamilton College Media Board. A volunteer staff of students handles all aspects of the weekly publication. The purpose of the newspaper is to provide the Hamilton Community with an honest, fair, timely, and high-quality publication.**

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Celebrating 171 years, we were first published as The Radiator *in 1847.*

About Us

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Achieving a "brain orgasm": the controversial and beneficial sides of ASMR

by Allie Duggan '20
Opinion Editor

Being the Netflix guru that I am, I tend to be prone to watching any and all of the shows and movies they suggest to me. One that struck my attention recently was the new show, "Follow This," a show which follows journalists who work for *Buzzfeed* as they delve into some strange and intriguing facets of our world. It was as if someone had taken my three biggest passions (Netflix, journalism, and *Buzzfeed*) and combined them into one. Nothing intruiged me more than the first episode of this show which focuses on a new and popular rising trend.

Picture this: a slim white woman with long blonde hair leans in close to the microphone and whispers "Hey" in a hushed, breathy voice. "It's me," she says. She then spends the next twenty or so minutes tapping, scratching, whispering, and even rubbing makeup brushes against the microphone. This is ASMR.

ASMR is an abbreviation for Autonomous Sensory Meridian Response. This strange and fascinating phenomenon produces, in some individuals, a strong sensation of pleasure, nicknamed "tingleheads." It is described as a tingling sensation that usually starts in the scalp and travels down an individual's neck and spine and gives the individual the subjective experience of low grade euphoria. This sensation is nicknamed, the "brain orgasm." This response is usually a reaction to stimuli, oftentimes referred to as a "trigger." These triggers can include listening to whispering voices or quiet, repetitive sounds from someone engaging in a mundane task. These triggers can even include the sounds of someone loudly chewing, crunching, slurping, or chewing gum. For those of you who are currently thinking how strange this phenomenon is, consider this: do you like when someone brushes or plays with your hair? Have you ever felt calmer when watching a Bob Ross video? These are both types of ASMR. The physical contact of having one's hair played with and the relaxing sounds of the paint brush and Bob Ross's voice both result in the calming experience of ASMR.

An article written by Libby Copeland for *Smithsonian* describes the phenomenon at its start. When this trend first began, Copeland writes, "It was so strange and hard to describe that many people felt creepy trying. It resided at the outer edge of respectability: a growing collection of YouTube videos featuring people doing quiet, methodical activities like whispering, turning magazine pages and tapping their fingers." Strange as it seems, ASMR is becoming a tactic many people use to calm their mind, help their anxiety and in some cases, it is claimed to have helped treat depression.

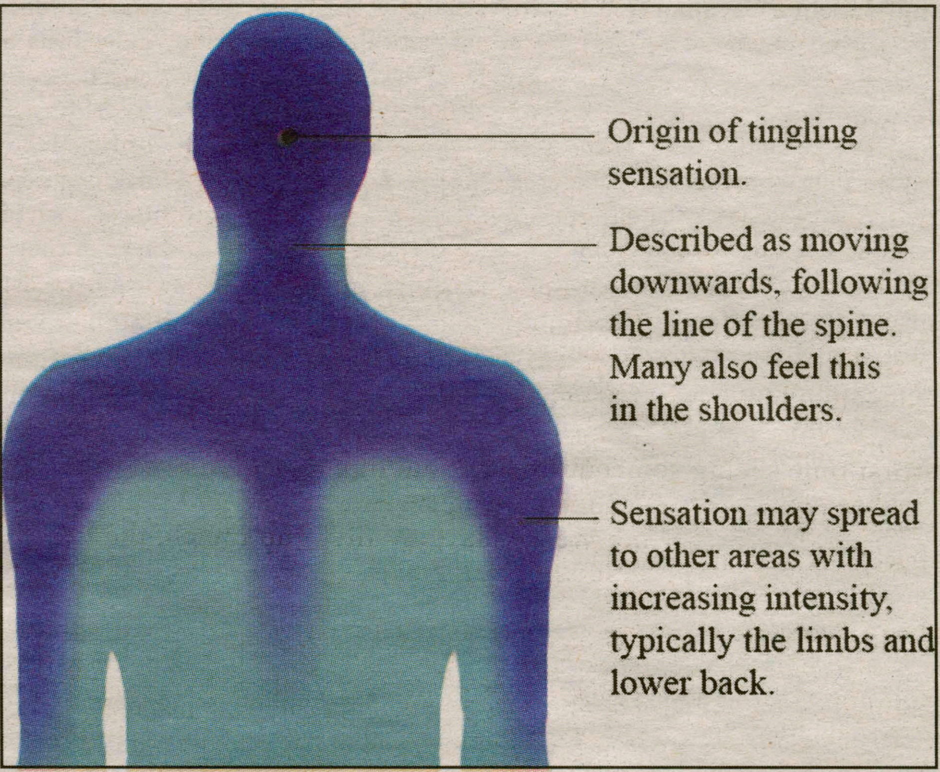


IMAGE COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

This YouTube trend gained popularity and a larger audience with the introduction of Maria, YouTube name "Gentle Whisperer." Maria is referred to as an "ASMRtist." Julie Beck at The Atlantic interviewed Maria in an attempt to understand what ASMR is and why it is so popular in the media.

In her interview with Beck, Maria explains: "'In 2009, I was going through a depression and I had a lot of problems with anxiety, I needed something to relax. On YouTube I was watching hypnosis videos, some massage videos as well [...] then I saw a link that said 'whisper video.'" Maria explains that these videos cured her depression and she loved them so much she wanted to start making them herself. She goes on to explain ASMR itself and that it manifests itself differently in people, and furthermore, not everyone experiences it. For those that do, "there are two types, Type A and Type B. Those with Type A are said to be able to cause ASMR through meditation, or just thinking about a trigger, while Type Bs need to actually experience the trigger. Maria also says that the tingles vary in strength."

For those of us who do not experience this sensation, Maria explains why this could be in more detail in her interview with Beck: "'The strongest type of tingle…feels like sparkles or little fireworks going off. [...] The strongest one would give you the feeling of being exhausted, pleasantly tired, satisfied almost you want to say. Then there are much less strong tingles, and they feel just pleasant. Almost like sand is being poured down your spine. [Or] like when you get the funny elbow, when you hit it and it feels like it just goes off everywhere.'"

Interestingly, there is no scientific research published about ASMR yet. It is purely nomenclature at this point. The closest to a publication I have found is a post on *Neurologica Blog* written by Steven Novella, an American clinical neurologist and assistant professor at Yale School of Medicine. He explains that despite the diversity of the triggers, "they all seem to engage the same networks of the brain–that part of us that interacts carefully and thoughtfully with our environment or with other people. There is something calmly satisfying about such things." He later adds the comical side note, "this reminds me of an episode of Spongebob in which he confessed he loves the sound that two pickles make when you rub them together."

The information we are lacking, and that so many people are trying to understand, is why this happens. What response in the brain do these noises spark that makes certain individuals feel a sensation of euphoria? Novella explains that nobody actually knows right now. He suggests there is a possibility they are small seizures caused by a reaction to the noise, as some seizures can be pleasurable. He also suggests that more simply, these sounds may just be a way of activating the pleasure response in some individual's brains. Which begs the question: is ASMR a type of porn?

According to watchers and curators the answer is no; however, it is not surprising that many people assume this when stumbling upon videos of beautiful women talking in hushed tones telling you they want you to relax.

The way I see it though, is ASMR is equally as sexual as if you were to go get a massage. Someone you do not know, who does not know you, is simply trying to make your life better by making you feel more relaxed and more at peace. Similarly to a massage, ASMR can also be used sexually, but the majority are not. Conversely, ASMR is much more accessible and completely affordable: all one needs is internet to access these relaxation techniques.

When broken down, ASMR is the innate desire to feel at peace; it is not as controversial and strange as people make it out to be. In a world that is filled with chaos and over-stimulation, someone's desire to remove themselves from the outside world's influence to find relaxation and pleasure is no mystery.

Thumbs Up	Thumbs Down	Who Cares?
Hamilton College. Good on you guys! We really did it! Back and better than ever. And safe. The admissions staff. Wow! Great work. We did it again! Somehow, year after year. Another batch of students! I don't know how we pull it off. I kid, I kid.	Genuine fools in Clinton who fully stop their cars in the road before making a common turn. It's not hard to glide in at a normal speed. Just try it once. The diner employees having to work without A/C. That's rough. Someone with influence should get them a nicer fan, at least.	"There is no power relation without the correlative constitution of a field of knowledge, nor any knowledge that does not presuppose and constitute at the same time power relations." -Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*

by Zachary Deming '20 and Ethan Dunn '20

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

Re-examining what it means to be "cool" at Hamilton, and the importance of community

by Madeline Carlman '19
Opinion Contributor

To all members of the Hamilton College community:

When I describe the difference between my younger brother, Reed, and I, I talk about the two different types of cool we represent. Reed represents the type of cool where he knows what other people and society want to see from him. He is exceptionally good at reading and following social norms. He laughs at the right times, stays quiet when he needs to, and makes beer jokes. I love him deeply.

I represent the other type of cool where I am not always good at reading what other people or society want from me, but I know what I want from me. Growing up this meant that I spent an unusual amount of time with women over the age of 40 because I liked the conversation. It also meant that I was not particularly social with people my own age and in that way, definitely not cool.

"We have the ridiculous, beautiful, and gorgeous opportunity at this college and in this life to show the ones around us profound love."

At Hamilton, I have noticed this incredible opportunity to be both types of cool. I want to spend this piece talking about the ways in which we can be cool as individuals and as community members.

No matter what year or stage of Hamilton you exist in, every day is an opportunity to create those social norms for "Reed's type of cool."

Every day we get to decide how this community acts, what it cares about or doesn't, what it thinks is cool or not.

This is a unique opportunity. It is so rare to be in such a small community where a single person's influence can be felt throughout the campus. I doubt I will ever be in such a special environment as this one again.

It is for this smallness, that I would like to emphasize how important it is to show up in this community. To attend the town halls, to pick your face up from your phone walking down Martin's Way and smile, to hold the doors in KJ and the Science Center, to say hello to people you just met, to pick up after yourself. Showing up doesn't just mean arriving at the place, it means committing to being present and active there. In a small community where just one person can have a lot of influence, numbers matter. If that one person is missing, we all are missing out. We need everyone here.

We have the ridiculous, beautiful, and gorgeous opportunity at this college and in this life to show the ones around us profound love. Every day we get the honor of surrounding ourselves with people worthy of love who will teach us and make us laugh and feel and think. This honor is precious and should not be taken for granted. How can you be the everyday hero? Notice when people do heroic things: pick up napkins in McEwen, stop an unsafe scenario from playing out at a Bundy party, check in with a roommate that's been staying inside a lot, listening to someone deeply. We get these four years to practice being remarkably good to each other. We must commit to plunge into this practice because it is critical for our safety and well-being.

Everyone in this community represents the most important people in your life right now. We are all responsible for your safety. You are responsible for our safety. Not just your clubs, or friend groups or Greek life or sports team, but all of the hearts that beat on this campus are accountable for you. Even the people who are strangers could be the one to get you the help you need or be that hero. Treat them like they have already saved your life. And take pride in knowing that by showing up, you are setting a norm of cool as doing the most possible good. That is what a legacy looks like.

Hello 1st years! Here's some free advice. Take it from a senior!

by Jake Bolster '19
Opinion Contributor

Dear Class of 2022,

I have two younger brothers, who I am jealous of. Their whole life they have benefited from my advice about how to do certain things — not because I am wiser or smarter, but simply because I did what they did first, and gave them advice based on my mistakes and successes. We went to the same high school and I gave them the tools they needed to help navigate it successfully. Growing up, I quickly learned that having someone who is willing to give you insider tips about how to confront a new environment or challenge can go a long way towards helping one emerge successfully.

Being the oldest brother, there was never really someone there to give me specific advice on the myriad of challenges and new scenarios I encountered in my life. Of course, my parents were loving, helpful and supportive, but a lot changes between generations and sometimes you need a word or two from someone who has been through what you are about to go through a little more recently. One of the nicest parts about coming to Hamilton is realizing that many people are willing to help you and lend advice about how to navigate what can, oftentimes, be a daunting period in our adolescence.

I certainly would not be here without the guidance and wisdom from some of my older peers who went through the ranks of Hamilton in years past. Now that I find myself a senior, it feels only right that I should try to impart a mixture of some of the best advice I received as a first-year and a few things I wish people had told me three years ago. Make no mistake, what follows is merely what has worked for me. There is no one right way to go through Hamilton, this is just the approach I have taken. If there's something in here for you to take away, all the better.

One of the best pieces of advice I have ever received is to "stay in your own movie." In other words: find your own way. Should the way become too treacherous, or you lose your conviction, keep the following two pieces of advice in mind:

Firstly, take advantage of the open curriculum. We are all blessed with an academic palette that allows us to pursue — almost exclusively — subject matter that we are deeply interested in. We are free from the formulaic core curriculum, and as a result, I suggest that as you think about what you want to study, take courses whose subject matter makes you excited to learn. This strategy will make writing a paper, doing a thirty-page reading, working through a group project, or studying for a test much easier. Should you find yourself on a path where you are not energized in your studies, you can always switch to something you prefer more.

For example, I had a few friends sophomore year who declared as economics majors despite openly proclaiming a higher interest in other fields. Mere days after they declared, they switched their majors because they realized they would be happier in the coming years working with material that more strongly piqued their interest. Take what you love, or what you think you love, early on so you leave yourself time to improvise in case something else comes up that you like more. If you do not know what you like, cast a wide net.

Conversely, do not limit your academic scope unless you really have to. Though I am a Literature and Theatre double major, some of my best academic experiences here at Hamilton have come from classes outside my major. I have taken courses in the history, Africana Studies, Italian, Spanish, economics, American Studies and Creative Writing departments in addition to my literature and Theatre classes and can undoubtedly say I am better off for having exposed myself to other subjects and ways of thinking. It can be tricky, but finding a balance between specializing your education and diversifying it can go a long way towards your happiness here.

Secondly, and this may seem like it goes without saying, but it cannot be understated: be kind to one another. I am sure most everyone here knows Hamilton has experienced some turbulence in the last few years. If that sentence shocks you or you do not know why, I encourage you to strike up a conversation with your peers and find out.

We will always face challenges as a community when we put 1,850 18-22 year olds from vastly different upbringings and walks of life on the same campus for nine months out of the year. As a result, you will not get along with everyone.

Getting along with everyone that you encounter, whether it be at Hamilton or outside in the real world, is an impossibility. However, you will encounter people who are struggling, people who maybe you do not agree with or do not understand, but who need your help. Perhaps at some point during your time here, you may even unconsciously need the kindness of a complete stranger.

Finding the courage within you to summon kindness and empathy as your first responses to such people will do more for the greater good of this community than you may suspect. We are all interconnected here, and it is nearly impossible for the actions we take on a day to day basis not to ripple to a seemingly far away corner of campus. As a result, we have a responsibility to look out for one another, and as the newest first-year class, you inherit that responsibility. Hamilton is not perfect, far from it.

We have a lot of work to do to build a more inclusive, supportive, respectful, and compassionate community, but by exhibiting kindness to one another daily for four years, the class of 2022 will bring us one step closer.

XOXO,
Jake

Bachelorette & Bachelorette

Julia Dupuis '21

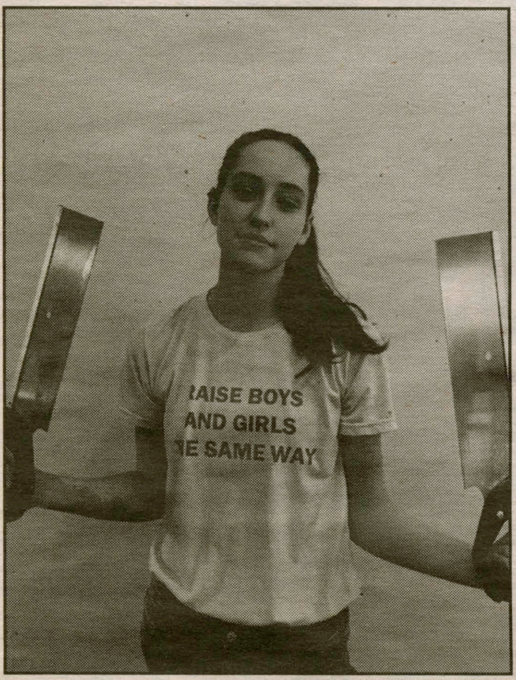


PHOTO COURTESY OF HEIDI WONG '20

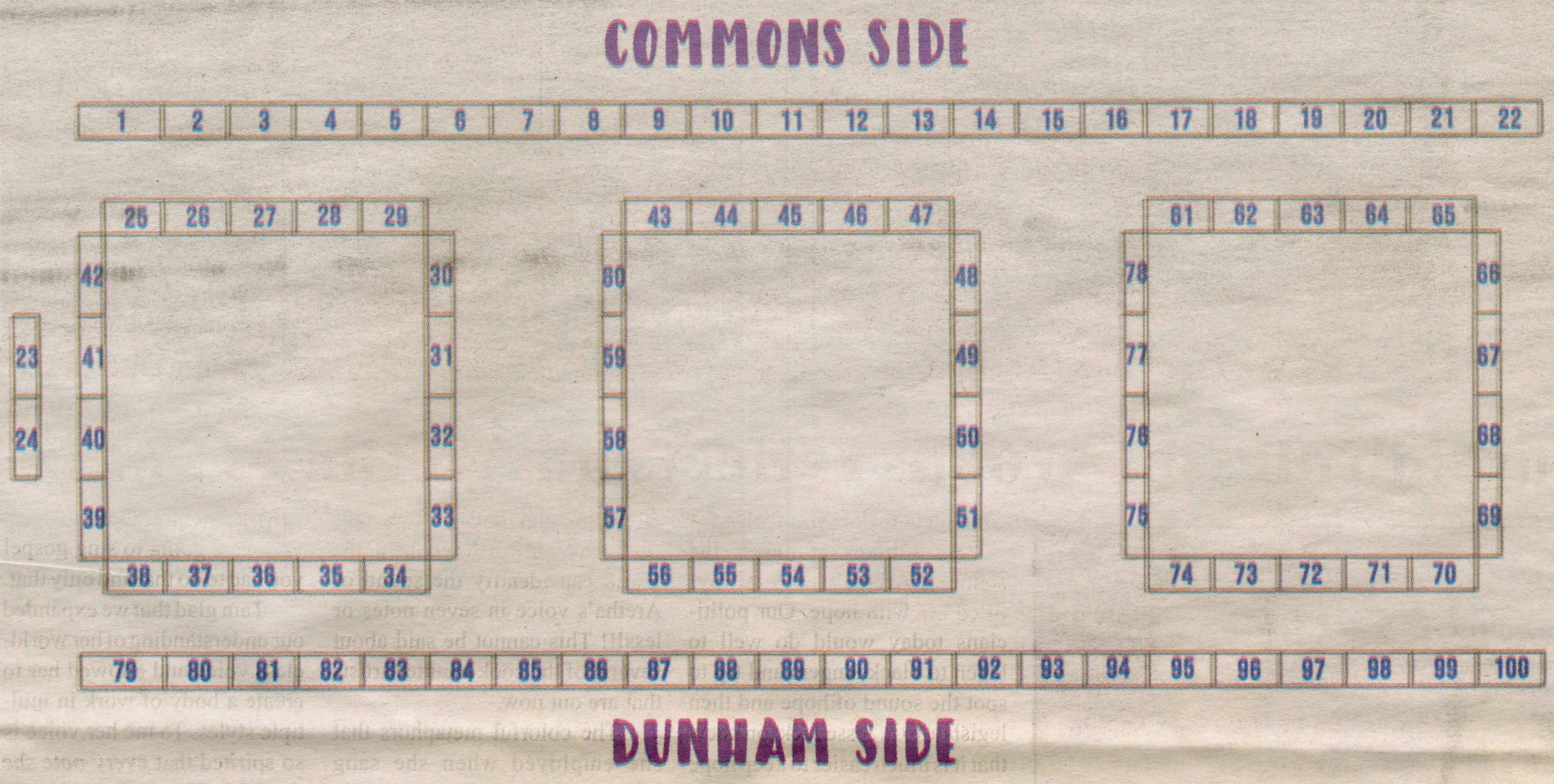
Hometown: *Mission Viejo, CA.*
Home on Campus: *Sken.*
Major: *Creative Writing.*
Turn on? *Not men.*
Turn off? *Men.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *The dumpster behind Kirkland because that's my dream dorm for next year.*
Lights on or off? *Pitch darkness so I can pretend I'm dead.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two celebrities, whom would you pick? *Jesus and Heidi Wong because I'm the perfect mix of holy and deranged.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"Subway, Eat Fresh."*
What TV genre best describes you? *Horror.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"Are you from Tennesee? Because I've never been there and I don't want to go."*
What's your type? *Women.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Homosexuality, lesbianism, being gay.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Abandonded car in the middle of the Glen.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *Deep into the woods to never return again.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *League of Legends club.*
What's your patronus and why? *A raccoon because I love trash.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Murder...*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Dogs.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Men.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Heidi Wong.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *Heidi Wong.*
What would your perfect date be? *Dismantling oppressive systems of power.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Heterosexuality.*
What's the meaning of life? *To pay taxes and die.*
Which Member of Disney royalty are you? *Ursula.*

Heidi Wong '20

PHOTO COURTESY OF HEIDI WONG '20

Hometown: *KTSA.*
Home on Campus: *KTSA.*
Major: *Physics.*
Turn on? *Drinking turpentine.*
Turn off? *Lentils.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *The nude model stage in the figure drawing studio.*
Lights on or off? *Off - covered in glow in the dark paint.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two celebrities, whom would you pick? *Lady Gaga and a Great White Shark.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"Dr. Pepper: What's the worst that could happen?"*
What TV genre best describes you? *Tana Mongeau's slowly decreasing view count on Youtube.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"If you were a pineapple, I'd still be allergic to pineapples."*
What's your type? *Brendon Urie.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Eating paint, sunglasses that are bigger than my face, caffeine.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *The dumpster outside Babbitt.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *KTSA.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Duelly Noted.*
What's your patronus and why? *Freddy Krueger going to Coachella.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Just one?*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Hibernating.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Waking up before noon.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Julia Dupuis.*
What would your perfect date be? *We watch a horror movie and you cry and run out of the room.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *The human skin I put on every morning.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Not following me on Instagram.*
What's the meaning of life? *To succesfully lick the ground of every single U.S state.*
Which member of Disney royalty are you? *Maleficent.*

STUDENT ACTIVITIES & ORGANIZATIONS FAIR



PARTICIPATING ORGS

1 Emerson Literary Society
2 Debate Society
3 Vegan Club
4 Hamilton Culinary Society
5 Slow Food
6 Novelists Support Group
7 Habitat for Humanity
8 HAVOC
9 WHCL Radio Station
10 The Spectator
11 Spoon University
12 SMART
13 PPGEN / Strong Girls
14 Spanish Club
15 Peer Counseling
16 Her Campus
17 History Club / College Democrats
18 Mock Trial
19 Kendo Club
20 Hamilton Culinary Society
21 International Students Association / French Club
22 Meditation Club
23 Sadove Programming
24 Campus Activities Board
25 Yodapez
26 Hunt & Dressage / HEAG
27 Mathletics
28 Wind Ensemble
29 HEAT / Wind Ensemble
30 Tropical Sol / Association for Women in Mathematics
31 Tumbling After
32 Dance Team
33 The Levitt Center / Tap That!
34 Diversity Admissions Recruitment Team / Questbridge Scholars
35 Admissions Overnight Hosting
36 Alternative Spring Break
37 Pre-Professional Health Careers Club / Conspiracy Theorists
38 Anime Club
39 Asian Students Association (ASA)
40 HamVotes Student Ambassador Team
41 Student Assembly
42 Social Traditions / Operation Smile
43 The Duel Observer
44 The Continental Magazine
45 Suture / The Green Apple
46 Signature Style
47 Red Weather
48 Hillel
49 Interfaith / Challah for Hunger
50 Newman Council
51 Muslim Students Association (MSA)
52 Consulting Club
53 Micro-Finance Group
54 Crypto Club / Society of Physics Students
55 Finance Club
56 Poetry Slam Club
57 Hamilton Space Society / Helping Hands Knitting Club
58 Boffer/LARP Club / College Robotics
59 Roleplaying Club / WISE
60 Grasping Roots
61 Shenandoah-Kirkland Initiative (SKI)
62 VCLS / Multicultural Peer Mentoring Project (MP2)
63 Feminist of Color Collective / La Vanguardia
64 Queer Student Union (QSU)
65 Black and Latinx Student Union (BLSU)
66 Womxn's Center
67 Tennis Club / Beekeeping
68 Spikeball Club
69 Baseball Analytics Club
70 Intramural Sports
71 Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC)
72 Women's Club Soccer
73 Women's Club Basketball
74 Ultimate Frisbee
75 Fellowship of Christian Athletes / Nordic Ski Team
76 Chabad Community on Campus
77 All Beliefs Union
78 Hamilton Christian Fellowship
79 Hamilton EMTs
80 HAAND
81 Global Health Organization
82 Red Cross Club
83 On the Move
84 No Pawn Intended
85 League of Legends Club
86 Gaming Club
87 Hamilton Outing Club
88 People Who Like To Do Fun Things / Untitled@Large
89 Hogwarts at Hamilton
90 First Report91 Film Club
92 Women's Rugby
93 Men's Rugby
94 Running Club
95 Sailing Team
96 Alpine Ski Team
97 Curling Team / GNAR Club
98 Club Ice Hockey
99 Figure Skating Club
100 Powder Club

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31ST
12 PM - 2PM
DUNHAM GREEN TENT

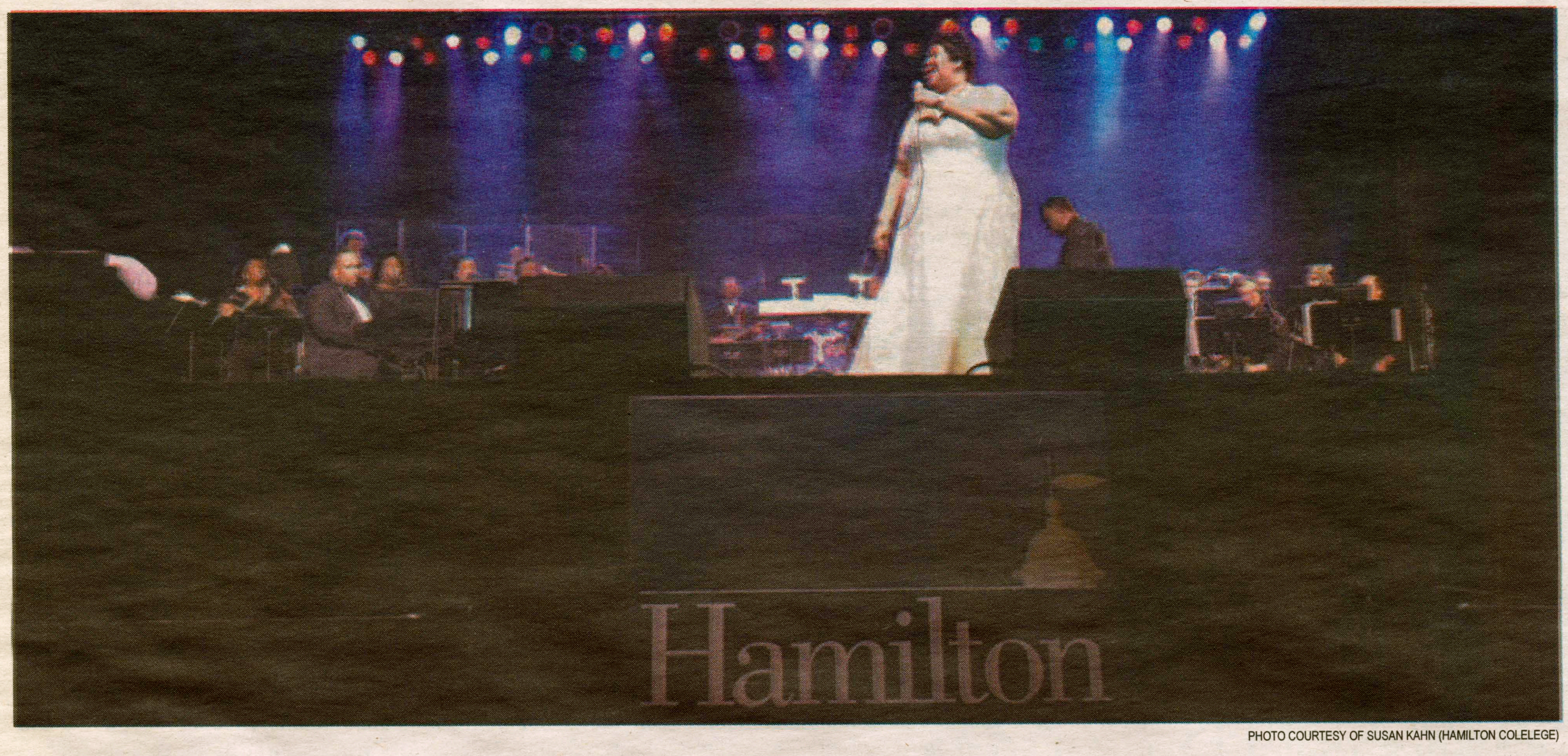


PHOTO COURTESY OF SUSAN KAHN (HAMILTON COLELEGE)

Tribute: Professor Woods reflects on Aretha Franklin

PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAEL WOODS

Professor Woods with Aretha Franklin after her performance at Hamilton College in 2008.

by "Doctuh" Michael Woods
Contributing Writer

Editor's Note: This piece was originally published in The Utica Observer-Dispatch *on Aug. 18, 2018.*

When I was 18 years old I graduated from high school. My buddy and I played in a cover band that did Motown tunes.

In the summers, we would jam in the late mornings at my house, or at the guitar player's house. One morning I came running down to his front porch. I had just got a letter from Aretha Franklin! I had written to her several times telling her how awesome I thought her voice was. I always played my bass with a new sense of purpose after that day. She was my hero, rivaled only by James Brown.

Now that the Queen of Soul has passed we need to take a look at what soul music ought to be.

Soul ought to be about producing sounds that are expensive, because those sounds cost somebody a lived experience to create. With soul music, one does not just take a given beat and have it repeat 35 times without variation in tempo or volume or style by a machine that does not laugh, cry, or dance. A robot does not bring the funk like a black drummer from the hood: Plus the brother needs the gig! The very nature of soul music is to exalt the subjective qualities of the music over its objective aspects. Soul is about how an experience or its musical equivalent makes you feel.

As a black teenager, the sound of Aretha's voice always filled me with hope. Our politicians today would do well to listen to black singers and try to spot the sound of hope and then legislate to it. Jesse Jackson knew that it is much easier to keep hope alive than to let it die and try to force it back to life. If you can spot it in the sounds that people make, you can be certain that it is quite alive.

Even when she sang songs that seemed sad, the very color of her voice as well as that heavy, thick tone that lagged so far behind the beat filled me with energy and courage to face whatever the challenge was. When I heard Aretha sing, no one had to try to convince me that black life mattered. I knew it mattered because no one else in all of America could riff like that.

When you go to see a famous opera singer, you get there early and read the extensive program notes that tell all of the complex roles that she has played. When Aretha opens her mouth and sings the first note, her tone color becomes her program notes. You cannot create the sounds that she does without having lived through some tough times.

Her manager, John Hammond, tried to turn her into another Billie Holiday. She was quite capable of singing jazz with very beautiful shadings. She could also fly over the notes like she did when she sang "Moody's Mood For Love" in which she sings the words to an awesome alto sax solo. But when she went down and recorded at Muscle Shoals Alabama, they finally let her turn on the power and she developed the sound of one of the most haunting and compelling African American cries in all of popular music. Now it is such that almost anyone in the world can identify the sound of Aretha's voice in seven notes or less!!! This cannot be said about several of the cookie cutter artists that are out now.

The colorful metaphors that she employed when she sang "Oh Me Oh My" are just classic. When she sings "Skylark" it is a story about a young beautiful black woman searching for love. She is asking a bird to fly up and look over the scene and see if it can help her find her lover. The shape and subtlety of the phrasing is magnificent! When she does "Bridge Over Troubled Water" it is as if a black female mother figure is reaching out a hand to me as I sink. That hand has a sure grip and it pulls me to safety.

When she sings "Eleanor Rigby" the woman transforms from an obscure British woman into a little old black lady, with a handbag that is way too large and thick unattractive stockings that attends a small, almost forgotten AME Zion church outside of Detroit. The power and tone color of her voice alone makes the difference. When she sang "Respect" she broke through on two levels at the same time. The song was a female anthem for self empowerment. At the same time it was one of the first songs where a woman could say "Gimme my proppers when I get home." In other words "I need my vitamin 'S' also so don't come home drunk or tired!"

What does Aretha snack on? Grammy Crackers! She has won so many awards that it is off of the scale! Even the governor of Michigan declared her voice a natural resource! Aretha and Sam Cooke were the first two major popular artists that survived the transition from church to R&B. At that time most black church people were so conservative that they felt that if you were going to sing gospel you had to do that and only that.

I am glad that we expanded our understanding of her world-class voice and allowed her to create a body of work in multiple styles. To me her voice is so spirited that every note she sings is spiritual even if it is not performed at Sunday morning at 11 a.m. She has sung to honor Obama as well as Mandela, but it is the average man that goes to work every day and tries to make a decent living that she truly represents.

It is my sincere hope that her death will make a final contribution: A clarion call for our greatest singers of all ethnic backgrounds to make statements of dignity and sing songs of love and not just sex.

The next time you visit a black church like the ones her father used to pastor, linger at the altar for a moment after service when the once rockin' church has fallen back into silence just before the janitor locks the front door. Quiet yourself and see if you can pick up a faint soulful riff of Aretha when she was yet a teenager singing "While the Blood Is Runnin Warm In Yo Veins" floating on the air.

The greatest R&B voice in the history of American music has passed into another realm! But that much soul has to leave a residue. I do not know who her mantle should pass to or if we should just let her magnificent soul rest and start fresh by creating new categories because Aretha's cannot even be touched?

Michael Woods is the Leonard C. Ferguson Professor of Music at Hamilton College.

Comedian Mike Birbiglia to bring his *Stand Up & Vote* comedy show to the Hill

by Bethany Vickery '20
A&E Editor

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Bestselling author, director, actor, and comedian Mike Birbiglia will perform at Hamilton on Sept. 14.

On Sept 14, stand-up comedian Mike Birbiglia will perform at Wellin Hall at 7:30 PM as part of his *Stand-Up & Vote* tour. Organized by Campus Activities Board (CAB), the event will include additional guests: *SNL* cast member Melissa Villaseñor, writer and podcaster Phoebe Robinson, and comedian Gary Gulman. All proceeds from the show will go to HeadCount, Rock The Vote, and Vote.org, three non-profit, non-partisan organizations that register voters and encourage voter turnout. Tickets went on sale on Aug. 28 in the Sadove Conference Room. They are still available for $5.

Birbiglia is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Sleepwalk With Me and Other Painfully True Stories*. Birbiglia first wrote *Sleepwalk With Me* as an off-broadway show in 2008. After the show garnered popularity and critical praise, the book adaptation was published in 2010. Two years later, Birbiglia wrote, directed, and starred in a movie of the same name. The film premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, and critics and audiences warmly received it nationwide. The semi-autobiographical film follows Matt Pandamiglio, a struggling thirty-something comedian juggling personal anxieties, a failing relationship, and a life-threatening sleep disorder. Rapid Eye Movement (REM) behavior disorder causes Matt to physically act out his dreams, usually in the form of sleepwalking. A crucial scene in the movie shows Matt sleepwalking out of a second-floor window, narrowly escaping death but seriously injuring his leg. The incident did actually happen to Birbiglia, and inspired him to write about his disorder in the context of comedy. *Sleepwalk With Me* won the NEXT Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival, and Birbiglia was nominated for Breakthrough Actor at the Gotham Awards for his performance. The film also won Birbiglia the title of Best Writer/Director at the Nantucket Film Festival in 2012.

The film version of *Sleepwalk With Me* was produced by Ira Glass, with whom Birbiglia had previously worked on a segment of Glass's popular radio show *This American Life*. The segment, "Fear of Sleep," was also about Birbiglia's sleep disorder. Birbiglia has since contributed to 13 other episodes of the show. Another popular episode of the radio show, "Of Mice and Men" follows Birbiglia, his wife, and his cat on their trip to Massachusetts. Birbiglia elaborates on the story in his 2017 Netflix stand-up special *Thank God for Jokes*. *The New York Times* described Birbiglia's stand-up set as "an indescribably ridiculous collection of anecdotes and asides that miraculously blend into a whole." In *Thank God for Jokes*, Birbiglia ponders the definition and limits of a joke, switching seamlessly from anecdotes about yoga class with his wife to a serious rumination on the Charlie Hebdo massacre in France. At its core, *Thank God for Jokes* is an ode to humor. Birbiglia loves jokes for the solace they bring, the power they hold, and even the risks that accompany them. He explains in the opening of the special, "that's what I love about jokes; they're just your side of the story."

Birbiglia wrote, directed, and starred in his second movie, *Don't Think Twice*, which premiered in 2016 at the South By Southwest Film Festival. Co-starring in *Don't Think Twice* are acclaimed comedians Keegan Michael Key, Kate Micucci, and Gillian Jacobs. The ensemble comedy follows the members of an improvisational comedy troupe called The Commune as they navigate career struggles and inter-group dynamics. Don't Think Twice received 3.5/4 stars from *Rolling Stone*, who described Birbiglia as "a filmmaking talent to watch," who "allows the emotions in his film to sneak up on you, like they do in life [...] You'll laugh till it hurts." Bittersweet comedy is one of the hallmarks of Birbiglia's work; his 2013 stand-up set *My Girlfriend's Boyfriend* culminates in a heartfelt confession about his marriage. A longtime critic of marriage as an institution, Birbiglia wrestled with his reluctance to wed and his now-wife's desire to get married. He reveals in the last line of the special "I still didn't believe in the idea of marriage, and I still don't. But I believe in her, and I've given up on the idea of being right."

The seemingly effortless transition from silliness to poignancy is Birbiglia's trademark. In one of his earlier stand-up specials, *What I Should Have Said Was Nothing*, anecdotes about dreaming of pizza turn to political commentary, then to Cinnamon Toast Crunch. Although his teddy bear demeanor and self-deprecation are a substantial part of his humor, Birbiglia does not rely on goofiness alone. His jokes are well-crafted, smart, and relatable all the while. Three of Birbiglia's stand-up comedy specials can be found on Netflix, and he has appeared in films and TV shows, from the 2015 film *Trainwreck* to *Orange is the New Black* and *Broad City*. *Stand-Up & Vote* will be held in Wellin Hall on Sept. 14 at 7:30 PM.

Women to watch out for: Melissa Villaseñor and Phoebe Robinson

by Josie Blatt '21
A&E Editor

This week's "Women to Watch Out For" are actress and comedian Melissa Villaseñor and writer and comedian Phoebe Robinson. Last week, Hamilton's Campus Activities Board (CAB) announced that Villaseñor and Robinson will be featured performers alongside comedians Mike Birbiglia and Gary Gulman in their *Stand Up & Vote* comedy show on Friday, Sept. 14, at 7:30 PM in Wellin Hall.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Melissa Villaseñor is best known for her work on *SNL*.

Villaseñor is perhaps best known for her role as a cast member on *Saturday Night Live* (*SNL*). Villaseñor started on *SNL* in 2016 as the show's first Latina cast member and is still with the show today. One of her greatest strengths is her celebrity impressions, which she performs on many platforms, including *SNL* and her YouTube channel. Highlights include her impressions of Sarah Silverman, Celine Dion, Jennifer Lopez, and Gwen Stefani.

Prior to joining the cast of *SNL*, Villaseñor worked as a voice-over actress on *Adventure Time*, *Family Guy*, and *TripTank*. She was also a semifinalist on season 6 of *America's Got Talent* and competed on *First Impressions*, a game show for comedians, in 2016.

Today, in addition to performing on *SNL*, Villaseñor appears both as herself and other characters on a wide variety of television shows and tours around the United States and Canada.

Our next woman to watch out for, Phoebe Robinson, is the creator and co-host of the *2 Dope Queens* podcast. During each episode, Robinson and co-host Jessica Williams, comedian and former senior correspondent on *The Daily Show*, sit down with three guest comedians. The podcast features female comedians, LGBT comedians, and comedians of color. *2 Dope Queens*, which debuted in 2016 at number one on the iTunes podcast chart, is a two-hour live comedy show in Brooklyn that is condensed into an hour long podcast. HBO picked up *2 Dope Queens* for a four part special comedy show following its massive success.

In June of 2016, Robinson launched her solo podcast, a spin-off of *2 Dope Queens*, called *Sooo Many White Guys*. In *Sooo Many White Guys*, Robinson addresses the predominance of white males in comedy and interviews one non white male comedian, musician, actor, or writer per episode. Both *2 Dope Queens* and *Sooo Many White Guys* still air episodes weekly.

Robinson has appeared as a comedian on many television shows, including *Last Comic Standing*, *Late Night with Seth Meyers*, *Broad City*, and *Last Call with Carson Daly*. She also acted in a supporting role on Netflix's summer comedy, *Ibiza*. Moreover, a wide array of magazines and news sites, such as *Vulture*, *Essence*, *Esquire*, and *Brooklyn Magazine*, have named Robinson an up-and-coming comedian to watch.

Not only does Robinson have a robust career as a comedian, but she is also a successful writer. She was a staff writer for MTV's *Girl Code* and the final season of the hit television show Portlandia. Robinson has contributed articles to *The New York Times*, *The Huffington Post*, *Vanity Fair*, and more. Additionally, she is a *New York Times* best-selling author for her book, *You Can't Touch My Hair and Other Things I Still Have to Explain*. Her sophomore book, *Everything's Trash, But It's Okay*, is set to be published in October 2018.

Overall, both Villaseñor and Robinson are doing significant work by inspiring more women of color to pursue careers in comedy. Watch out for Villaseñor and Robinson as they come to the Hill and continue to take the world of comedy by storm!

PHOTO COURTESY OF FACEBOOK

Phoebe Robinson hosts a hit podcast titled *2 Dope Queens*.

Campus Activities Board and First Year Experience host Water Fest

by Kyandreia Jones '19
Staff writer

Students come to Hamilton because it is an institution full of incredible opportunities. These endeavors often require hard work and dedication, but they also provide many moments of joy. These opportunities allow students a chance to let down their hair and to take a break from their busy professional lives.

The Campus Activities Board (CAB) and First Year Experience (FYE) Water Fest, which took place this past Saturday, Aug. 25, gave students the chance to come together and embrace the final days of summer. This event showed students that even though they have started college, they do not have to forget the joys of their childhood upon entering adulthood.

Members of every class year made their way to Babbitt Pavillon. There, they enjoyed the jewels of life: ice cream, raffles, a slip and slide, and other exciting activities brought by CAB and FYE. "I loved the surfboard," said Andres "Fluffy" Aguilar '19 before critiquing, "I wish there were more people. This should have been done earlier."

Despite the relatively late starting time of 6 PM, turnout increased throughout the evening. "The early turnout helped draw people," said Anna Tinker '21, a member of CAB. It seems that the opportunity to meet new people played a role in drawing students from their dorms and to this comfortable, friendly social environment. This is something that CAB member Cal Reynolds '20 also noticed, saying, "It's beautiful to see upperclassmen and underclassmen come together."

The Water Fest gave first-years the courage to weave themselves into the fabric of campus life. "I liked this event. I had nothing to do [...] I didn't know anybody, but coming here allowed me to meet some new people and to have fun," said Preston Comer '22. Echoing Comer, Andrew McCarthy '22 added that the slip and slide was a huge motivation for his attendance.

Representing the FYE, Delta Reyes '20 and Jessica Shields '20 expressed their satisfaction with the Water Fest. "Our goal is to direct first year students, and invite them to future programs," said Reyes. "We have events like this so that first years can get accustomed to the Hamilton community and feel a part of it," added Shields.

Establishing Hamilton as a community is important. So it is crucial to introduce first-years to a culture that views them not only as students, but as individuals. Though it is valuable to focus on your studies, self-care also falls high on the list of necessary strategies for having a successful college career. As Shields said, "It's important to make being a first year fun. College isn't just about studying!"

Although the event was one geared toward first years, upperclassmen took advantage of the chance to enter their new semester with a fun event and a positive outlook. "I came for the slip and slide, [and] it was also nice to stick around and meet people," said Erin Ebert '21. Some upperclassmen expressed excitement to have a joyful place to be themselves. "I'm having a great time!" said Anaidys Uribe '19, hopping off the surfboard machine.

"The waterslide is a lot fun, and more suited for summer," added Mariani German '19. All of a sudden words such as "thesis," "job search," and "graduate school" faded away to "ice cream," "dancing," and "water balloons."

"I appreciate the event because it's been a long week. The music and the activities allow me to be goofy and carefree at least for a few hours," said Sacharja Cunningham '19.

The event's playlist created a mood of relaxation and cheer. The music drew in crowds almost as much as the slip and slide. "The plan was to get ice cream and leave," said Grace Woolson '21, "but the music made me stay."

The playlist included songs such as "Rehab" by Amy Winehouse, "Hey Soul Sister" by Train, "Irreplaceable" by Beyoncé, "Love Yourself" by Justin Bieber, and many other tracks that turned a night of summertime fun to impromptu singalongs. "I was happy to see a few upperclassman," said Ruth Coolidge '21. "Plus," joked Coolidge, praising the music selections, "When a cellphone rang during 'Call Me Maybe' it added to the realism of the song."

Some upperclassmen critiqued a few of the activities, such as the surfboard machine. "I wanted it to be crazier. It was a rave, but not enough," said Avery Cook '21, only partially in jest. Most attendees expressed the importance of the lighthearted nature of the Water Fest. "I wish more people appreciated it," said Vanessa Vincent '21.

Although autumn will carry away summertime activities like the Water Fest, we as a community have shown that we are capable of creating spaces where we feel in touch with the sweetest parts of life all year round.

A capella kicks off fall semester with group concert in Wellin Hall

by Melanie Snyder '19
Contributor

Last Wednesday evening, incoming first-years were introduced to a musical staple of the Hamilton College community. Four a cappella groups performed for a full Wellin Hall of under and upperclassmen alike, bringing in the new school year on the right note.

Special K, Hamilton's oldest all women's a cappella group, performed first. The concert began with the group's performance of "Daddy Lessons" by Beyoncé, featuring Bella Nichol '19, "Blue Ridge Mountains" by Fleet Foxes, featuring Maddie Rodden '20 and Josie Blatt '21, "Creep" by Radiohead featuring Sara Jadbabaie '21, and "Too Close" by Alex Claire featuring Eva Lynch-Comer '19.

Of the performance, Special K's President Casey Tobin said, "Overall, I'm so happy with how the concert went! I think all the groups were super tight and sounded amazing! For me personally, it was great to be back on stage performing with some of my favorite people after being abroad for a semester this past spring."

Next, Duelly Noted, Hamilton's newest all-gender group, performed "Cameo Lover" by Kimbra, "Past Lives" by Borns, and "Can You Feel the Love Tonight" from "The Lion King."

Duelly Noted member Emily Aviles '19 commented: "I think the concert went really well for all the groups, and I was proud of Duelly for pulling everything together after reuniting with members who had been abroad last year. Our group of eight is tiny (but mighty!) at the moment, so we are excited to audition new potential members."

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSIE BLATT '21

Special K, an all-women a capella group on campus, poses after their concert on Aug. 22, part of a larger program

This upcoming semester Duelly noted is planning on debuting a diverse group of songs, according to Aviles.

Two of Tumbling After's songs were "Back to Black" by Amy Winehouse and "Bad Self Portraits" by Lake Street Dive. The Buffers did their signature joke song, "If I Were Not a Buffer" and "Signed Sealed Delivered" by Stevie Wonder. The Hamiltones sang "Hide and Seek" by Imogen Heap and a boy band medley of NSYNC and Backstreet Boys songs.

During the concert, the presidents of each group announced the other orientation concert, which took place on Friday in the Chapel, and their upcoming auditions which took place over the weekend.

An anonymous member of the Keytone Lights (secrecy is part of the group's tradition) also commented on the performance, although the Keytone Lights did not take part in the performance on Wednesday.

The member expressed disappointment in the concert, but shared positive opinions of their own performance, which took place on Friday night, saying, "Our candlelit performance of ABBA's 'Take A Chance On Me' was the most beautiful thing these freshmen have seen since they saw the light of the operating room that they were born in. Freshman stood in awe at the entrance of the chapel, as we serenaded them with our beautiful throats. If there was a fire, we would've caused multiple casualties, because they stood, rapt and entranced, blocking the Chapel exit."

People can expect to receive an email regarding auditions for the Keytone Lights, and this information is always available on various social media pages.

All five a cappella groups are looking forward to an excellent semester. In summary, Tobin says, "As for the rest of the semester, we're looking forward to performing during Fall Fest as well as family weekend and Fallcoming. We are also always excited to sing the Star-Spangled Banner before sports games and perform for fundraisers."

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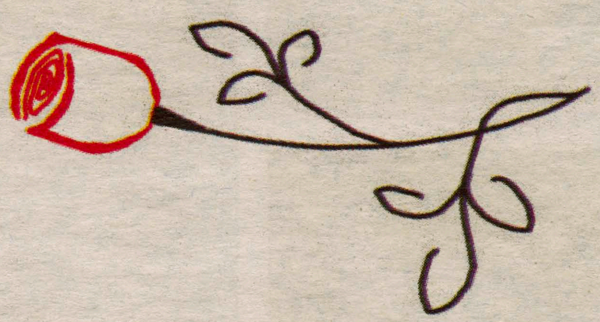
When will your reflection show...

... your experience at Hamilton?

We're now looking for seniors willing to write about their reflections; email us at featspec@hamilton.edu.

Jealous you weren't picked to be the Bachelorette or Bachelor of the week? Nominate yourself or others by emailing featspec@hamilton.edu



Fall 2017 Continental Recaps & Highlights

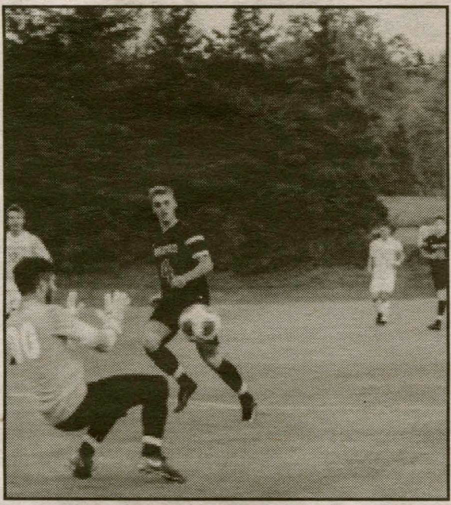


PHOTO BY KATHERINE O'MALLEY '20

PHOTO BY LEVANA LYU '21

Hamilton men's soccer team qualified for the NESCAC conference last year, making it the third time since entering the conference in 2011 that the team has qualified for the post-season tournament.

PHOTO BY RAN LYU '21

PHOTO BY RAN LYU '21

PHOTO BY DAN TU '20

Field hockey preserved their top–10 national ranking on Sep. 30 and 31. The Continentals were ranked #9 after a weekend consisting of two different games between Wesleyan and Tufts. Pictured on the left, Alyson Skelly '18 races towards the goal away from Wesleyan. Julia Booth'20 (pictured bottom left) defends the goal as regularly starting goalie.

PHOTO BY JOHN HARTPENCE

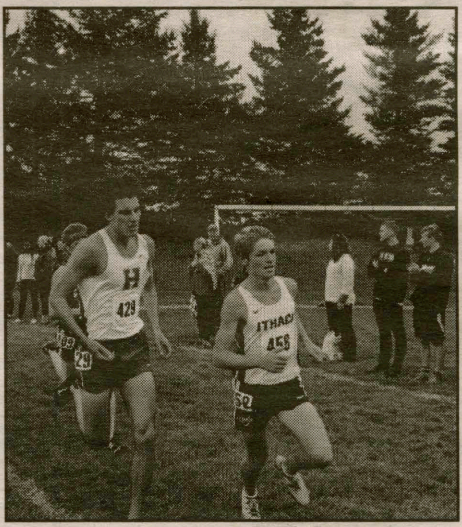


PHOTO BY LYNN KIM '21

Hamilton men's cross country won the 2017 Hamilton Invitational. Pictured left, Sinclar '18 and Wohl '18, provide veteran leadership for the team. The Invitation took place Oct. 7, 2017. On the right, Colin Horgan was one of several Continentals on the men's cross country team to '19 competed in the conference last year.

PHOTO BY KATHERIN O'MALLEY '19

PHOTO BY DAN TU '20

PHOTO BY DAN TU' 20

Women's soccer made history last year by defeating Middlebury, the third seed at the time, 1-0 in the NESCAC quarterfinals. With this victory, they advanced to the semifinals for the first time since joining the conference in 2011. Cat Gambino '20, pictured top left, takes aggressive swing towards a Colby player. Pictured bottom left, Katja Dunlap '18, plays midfield.

Fall 2018 athletics preview: teams poised for success

*from **Preview**, page 16*

all posted two or more goals each as well, with Chapman posting an impressive 37.5% shot percentage. Goalkeeper Linds Cadwell '20 is returning as well with a season topped off by 3 shutouts. Men's Soccer's first home game will be Tues. Sep. 11 against Ithaca College on Love Field at 5:00 PM.

Women's Soccer

The Continentals' women's soccer team had an excellent 2017-18 season with a record of 10-6-2 and impressive goals against average of 0.64. The team will begin to rely more on young talent this season after the graduation of two key players. After the graduation of leading midfielder Katja Dunlap '18, forward Cat Gambino '21 looks to continue the success of her debut, 3-goal season. Rachel Pike '21 will take over Emily Dumont's '18 legacy in goal and Pike hopes to succeed based on her brief 135 minutes of play last season, where she allowed 0 goals. Women's soccer's first game will be next Wed. Sep. 5 against Williams College on Love Field at 4:00 PM.

Volleyball

Coming off of disappointing seasons in 2013 and 2015, Hamilton's volleyball team's coaching change and new talent has caused them to soar to new successes the past few years, with the 2017-18 season seeing the team reach a conference record of 7-3. Though eliminated in the quarterfinals, the team's upward trajectory is clear and exciting to watch. Returners to watch are Meghan Wilkinson '19, who had 2.90 digs per set last season and Giuliana Rankin '20, who had at least 10 kills in 10 matches during the season. Both players were second only to Christine Nizzi '18 in their respective categories. Volleyball's first home match will be Wed. Sep. 26 in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House against SUNY Geneseo at 7:00 PM.

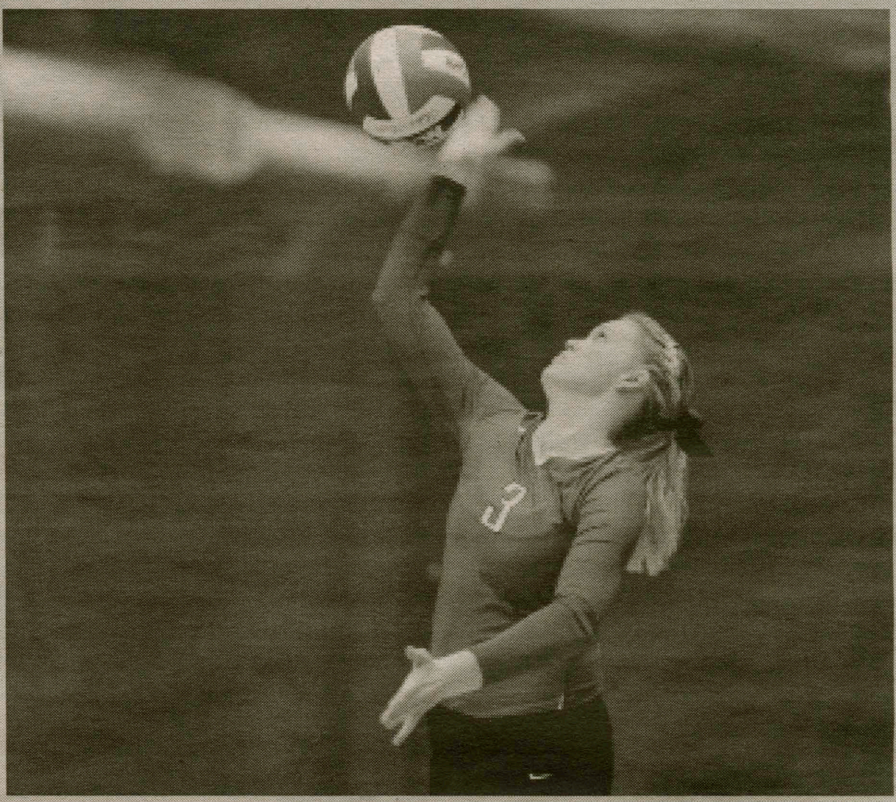


PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Volleyball had their best record in years and went to the playoffs for the first time since 2014.

Fall 2018 club sports overview

Fencing Club
The Fencing Club is a coed team that accepts students of all skill levels. The team competes against other schools such as Colgate and RPI. Email rjtaylor, mpherman or ofuller for more information.

Sailing Team
The Sailing Team is a coed team open to new and experienced sailors. It practices Tuesday through Wednesday at Cazenovia Lake with weekend competitions. Email zbaum for more information.

Hunt & Dressage Team
Hunt and Dressage Team is open to riders who know how to ride or who wants to learn how to ride. Be a horse girl like you've always dreamed! All are welcome! Email mgirona for more information.

Men's & Women's Rugby
Rugby's men's and women's teams are looking for interested players to learn a new sport and join a tight-knit team. Practices are every weekday. Email amcook (women's) or rwall (men's).

Men's & Women's Soccer
Club soccer's men's and women's teams are looking for players of all skills levels. Email sstigber or omunnell (women's) and nfalcone, kalcala, or wgaskill (men's) for more information.

Ultimate Fribsee
Ever played ultimate frisbee? No matter what your answer was, come on down to ultimate frisbee. No tryouts, no cuts, just fun people. Email tcoursey, nsuzuki, cxnichol, ejohanns, hkapp, or tspector.

Rock Climbing Seminar
An offshoot of the Outing Club, the Rock Climbing Seminar will teach you how to climb outdoors, set up rope anchors, and place trad gear. Meets Monday 2-8:15 until fall break. Email sjilling.

Running Club
Run track & field in high school? Cross country? Just want to run? The Running Club is open to everyone and takes places Mondays and Wednesdays at 4:15. Email running for more information.

Summer 2018 athletic updates & achievements

- **July 11: The Colgate Raider's top assisant coach , Mahogany Green, has been hired to lead the Hamilton women's basketball program.**
- **July 19, 2018 : Coach Fleckenstein Joined the tennis staff as assisant coach for both men's and women's teams .**
- **July 23, 2018: Two women's lacrosse player, Hannah Burrall '19 and Elni Neyland '18 made divison II academic honor roll.**
- **July 25, 2018 Five women's tennis players were honored for acadeic achievement: Sophia Aulicino '21, Stefanie Chin '20, Claire Curran '20, Margaret O'Brien '18, and Danielle Reisley '18.**
- **July 26, 2018: Six men's tennis players were honored for academic achievement : Tim Derby '21, Rob Dotterer '21, Matt May '21, Eyad Nagori '18, Jafar Sharipov '21, and Andrew Wei '20.**
- **July 29, 2018: The men;s track and field program earned All-Academic Team honors from the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Association for the 2018 Division III indoor and outdoor seasons.**

Fall 2018 athletics preview: teams poised for success

Grace Myers '19
Sports Editor

Men's Cross Country

Hamilton had a strong showing last year, placing 10th out of 42 schools at the NCAA Regional Meet on Nov. 10, which was their fourth top-10 finish in as many years. Returning runners include Lucas Wright '21, who placed third among all first-years at the 8-kilometer event. Seniors Colin Horgan '19 and Reilly Shew '19 also had strong showings at the meet, and look to lead the team in the coming season. Eight Men's Cross Country athletes were honored last year with NESCAC all-academic recognition, including six athletes who will be returning this season. Men's Cross Country's first meet will be at Hamilton College on Sat. Sep. 8 at 11:30 AM.

Women's Cross Country

Hamilton's female fall runners also did well, and returning senior Grace Heller '19 finished last year with all-academic honors, meaning that her grade point average exceeded 3.30 and she finished in the top-25 percent of her regional championship meet. Heller also competed at the NCAA championship in November of 2017, and will surely continue her success this season. Other returning runners who posted good times for Hamilton include Brigit Humphreys '21, Andy Uribe '19, Katie Cronin '21, and Haley Driscoll '21. Women's Cross Country's first meet will be at Hamilton College on Sat. Sep. 8 at 11:00 AM.

Field Hockey

The Continental field hockey team has had an exceptional few seasons, with a semifinals appearance in 2016 and a quarter-finals appearance in 2017. Led by a strong forward core of forwards in Michaela Giuttari '20 with 39 points last season and Tatiana Bradley '19 with 20 points and backed by goalkeeper Julia Booth '19, the team hopes to make another playoff push this season. Both Giuttari and Booth were selected for the 2017 Longstreth/National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division III All-Region Team. Field Hockey will play their first home game on Tues. Sep. 11 against Skidmore College on Goodfriend Field at 5:30 PM.

Football

Hamilton's football program went 3-6 last season, with an even record on home turf. Two of these victories were resounding wins with leads of over two touchdowns. Their two-win win streak was the longest since 2011. The Continentals' young roster is poised for success, as many returners had career-best seasons. On defense, linebacker Tyler Hudson '20 ranked second in the NESCAC with 10.2 tackles per game and was selected as the NESCAC defensive player of the week during the Week of Sep. 17. Defensive back Colby Jones '19 finished the season with 63 tackles (41 solo), two interceptions, and one fumble recovery. On offense, quarterback Kenny Gray '20 started eight of nine games as a sophomore last season and threw for 365 yards and three touchdowns. Wide receiver Joe Schmidt '20 led the NESCAC last season with 10 touchdowns and ranked second with 90.1 receiving yards per game. Right behind him was wide receiver Christian Donahoe '20 in third place in the NESCAC with 87.4 yards per game. On special teams, Joe Suski '21 will likely step in as kicker/punter after the graduation of Zach Altneu '18. The football team's first home game will be on Sat. Sep. 15 on Steuben Field at 1:00 PM.

Men's Golf

Returning golfer Bobby Osborn '20 was selected last year for the 2018 NESCAC Men's Golf All-Conference Team. Osborn had an 18-hole stroke average of 78.00 over 15 rounds during the season, and finishing in the top six of his three fall tournaments. He attended the NESCAC championship qualified on Oct. 1, 2017 and fired a 77. The Continentals as a team placed first place out of ten teams during its first home tournament last year, the Hamilton Invitational. To watch Men's Golf hopefully turn out a repeat performance, this year's Hamilton Invitational is on Sat. Sep. 1 at the Yahnundasis Golf Club in New Hartford, N.Y. at 1:00 PM.

Women's Golf

Hamilton's entire women's golf roster is intact for this season and hopes to continue on its success of the 2017-18 season. Libbie Warner '19 and Winda Wanikpun '20 are strong contenders this year. Wanikpun led the team with a career-low 82.88 stroke average, and Warner was second on the team with an 83.33 stroke average. Rounding out the top three was Celia Lau '21, who posted a 87.08 stroke average as a first-year. The team will also be attending the Hamilton Invitational on Sat. Sep. 1 at the Yahnundasis Golf Club in New Hartford, N.Y. at 1:00 PM.

Rowing

Hamilton's men's and women's rowing teams turned out good seasons last year, with the men's boats placing 1st place out of 3, 3rd out of 6, 26th out of 37, and 8th out of 38 in the four fall regattas. The women's boats were even more impressive, placing 1st out of 3 teams, 1st out of 10 teams, 10th out of 26, and 2 out of 43 for their four fall regattas. Grant Kiefaber '19, Trent Pfieffer '19, and Nick Silvestri '19 will captain the men's team during the 2018-19 season. Likewike, Danielle Schuman '19, Ann-Sophie Koglin '20, and Perrin Salewood '21 will captain the women's team. This year's home Bridge to Bridge Regatta will take place on Sat. Sep. 29 on the Erie Canal in Rome, N.Y. at 11:00 AM.

Men's Soccer

Men's soccer had a strong showing last season, making it to the NESCAC semifinals. Their overall record of 8-7-2 will undoubtedly improve with the return of point- and goal-leader Aidan Wood '20 who had an astounding 8 goals and 19 points. Returners Bobby Chapman '19, Jefri Schmidt '20, and Matt Casadei '19

*see **Preview,** page 15*

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Michaela Giuttari '20 was field hockey's sixth All-American Player last season. The team was ranked 19th in the 2018 Division III preseason poll.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Free safety Colby Jones '19 was the NESCAC Defensive Player of the Week for the week of Nov. 12 last season.